PARENT CASE

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United States Patent [19]

Grim et al.

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[54] FOOTGEAR WITH PRESSURE RELIEF ZONES

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[*] Notice: The portion of the term of this patent subsequent to Feb. 16, 2013, has been disclaimed.

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Related U.S. Application Data

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[51] Int. Cl.[6] A43B 13/38; A61F 5/00; A61F 5/37

[52] U.S. Cl. 36/88; 36/93; 36/95; 36/110

[58] Field of Search 36/43, 44, 71, 36/88, 95, 93, 110, 140, 155; 602/23

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[57] ABSTRACT

Footgear with an inner sole (66) having a grid of removable resilient elements to permit removal of selected elements (68) to provide relief to ulcerated or injured areas of the foot. An air bladder (64) may underlie sole (66), preferably with additional cushioning material (40) within the air bladder. A walker (12) with a soft support (20) may be provided with the inner sole within the support. Some of the removal resilient elements may have a higher density or height than others. The footgear may include an adhesively-backed resilient pad (212) to provide additional support to a region. The footgear may include means for reducing shear stress on a bottom surface of the foot. An edema patch (240) may be provided for covering an open space (248) left after a user has removed a removable section from the grid. The edema patch applies pressure to the afflicted zone of the foot (250) preventing fluids from building up.

23 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets

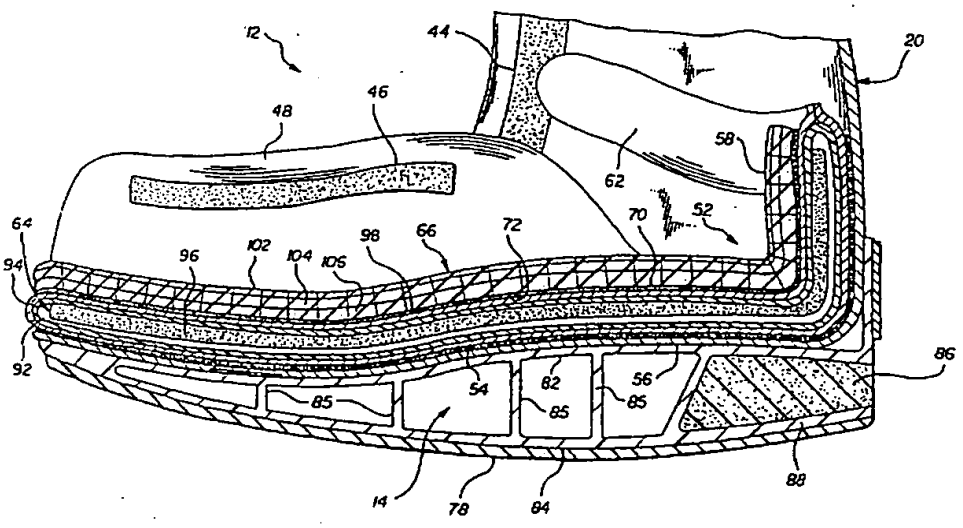

EXHIBIT A